

5 STEPS TO SECURING YOUR PRIVACY



1 | BASELINE



- **Keep your devices up to date.**
- Use Apple if you can, but Android, Linux, and Windows are okay if from a reputable manufacturer.
- Use a passcode or password. Biometrics are okay.
- Only install applications from trusted sources.
- Use a password manager and a different password for every website and service.
- Use a VPN if you don't trust your local network or ISP.

3 | DEFENSE AGAINST REMOTE ACCESS



- Android is okay if it's from a reputable manufacturer, and the device incorporates the Samsung Knox or Google Pixel Titan security chips.
- Linux is okay if it's a reputable distribution, runs on hardware from a reputable manufacturer, and runs SELinux.
- Block all inbound ports or services.
- Use Mullvad VPN or ProtonVPN.
- Use mutual PGP or s/mime encryption for email.
- Use 1Password or Bitwarden with a master passphrase.
- Use passkeys where possible. Otherwise, use random passwords created by the password manager.

4 | DEFENSE AGAINST PHYSICAL ACCESS

- Use an alphanumeric passcode.
- Turn off biometrics.
- Wipe the device after a limited number of passcode failures.
- Turn on stolen device protection.
- Encrypt the hard drive.
- Use Signal or Delta Chat with a limited history and minimal notification content rather than SMS or iMessage.



Everyone has their own security threat model. These five steps will not protect you against all malicious activity. They are a starting point. Begin with the baseline and apply changes as you work through the other steps. See ssd.eff.org for more details.

5 | MINIMAL TRUST



- Encrypt the hard drive and create a second partition for plausible deniability.
- Use Mullvad or Tor to browse the Internet.
- Use Mullvad VPN with cash payments.
- Turn off location tracking for all applications.
- Install only the necessary applications.
- Do not use cloud services or applications that you do not own or control.
- Use Fastmail or a self-hosted email server.
- Use KeePass or Bitwarden as your password manager with a self-hosted cloud sync server.

RESOURCES FOR SECURING YOUR PRIVACY



BROWSERS



[mozilla.org/
en-US/firefox](https://mozilla.org/en-US/firefox)



[mullvad.net/
en/browser](https://mullvad.net/en/browser)



[torproject.org/
download](https://torproject.org/download)



[vivaldi.com/
download](https://vivaldi.com/download)

PASSWORD MANAGERS



bitwarden.com



1password.com



keepass.info

VPNS



[mullvad.net/
en/vpn](https://mullvad.net/en/vpn)



protonvpn.com

CHAT APPS



delta.chat



[signal.org/
download](https://signal.org/download)

EMAIL PROVIDERS



fastmail.com